

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF VENUS AND SERENA WILLIAMS

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 4, 2002*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker, Congressman DAVIS, and Congresswoman MILLINDER-MCDONALD for bringing this resolution to the floor. I am proud to join my colleagues here today in support of this resolution recognizing the extraordinary sisters: Venus and Serena Williams.

As a member of both the Congressional Black Caucus and the Women's Caucus, I am especially delighted to participate in honoring the Williams sisters for their remarkable contributions not only to the sport of tennis, but also to their community and indeed communities all across our nation. These women are truly making a difference. They are breaking down barriers on the courts and in underserved communities.

Their record is staggering: together the Williams sisters have won over 43 professional titles. Venus is the first African-American woman to win the Wimbledon Championships since 1958. She is the first United States woman since 1924 to win an Olympic gold medal in both singles and doubles, and holds the women's world record for the fastest serve at 127 miles per hour. She is one of only seven women to win the singles titles in both the Wimbledon Championships and the U.S. Open in the same year.

Serena is the second African-American woman to win a Grand Slam singles title. She is the sixth American woman to win the U.S. Open singles title since 1968, and is only the fifth woman to win both singles and doubles Grand Slam titles in the same year. Since 1978, Serena is the only woman to reach the finals of the U.S. Open while debuting at the tournament.

In Compton, where they were raised, the Williams sisters are renowned for their service to their community. It is not unusual to find them passing out tennis rackets, conducting tennis clinics for low income children, or otherwise contributing to community development and helping to create an outlet for young people.

Their community service, however, extends far beyond Compton and California. Through their work, they have changed the lives of many young people, including young people right here in Washington, DC. I applaud the Williams sisters' efforts and encourage my colleagues to vote for the passage of this resolution.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
LIONEL HAMPTON**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 5, 2002*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Lionel Hampton, one of the greatest jazz musicians ever and a personal friend. Hamp, also known as the "Vibes President of the United States," passed away on

Saturday, August 31, but he lives on because of his many accomplishments. I could, of course, try to list all of Hamp's awards, but there are too many; instead, I'd like to share some personal memories I have of Hamp.

I was able to see him this past April 17, when I hosted a luncheon for him here on Capitol Hill, he was surrounded by many friends and supporters on the occasion of his 94th birthday. Just this past April 15, the Senate passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 101, which extended best wishes to Hamp for his birthday, and the very next day, the House passed the same resolution. Of course, few birthdays could top Hamp's 90th in 1998, when he played at the White House for President Clinton. He proved to all of us that he hadn't slowed down a bit. But playing for Presidents was old hat for Hamp. Throughout his career, he also played for Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and George W. Bush.

He also displayed his commitment to higher learning by having no fewer than 18 leading institutions award him honorary degrees and by having the University of Idaho name its school of music in his honor in 1987. That was the first time any school of music had been named in honor of a jazz musician. In fact, I have had the pleasure of serving as an honorary co-chair with President George H.W. Bush of the University of Idaho's Lionel Hampton School of Music.

To make sure his cultural legacy would be preserved, I had the honor of helping him donate that vibraphone to the jazz collection at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History on January 30, 2001. His donation will help inspire thousands of budding musicians to follow their dreams just as Hamp did.

If that wasn't enough, Hamp used his mastery of music to cross color barriers and set an example for others. He was one of the first black musicians to perform in previously white-only venues and events, including with the Benny Goodman Quartet from 1936-1940, and as the first black musician to perform at a presidential inauguration (President Truman's in 1949).

It isn't possible for me to list all of Hamp's awards, accomplishments, and performances, but rest assured, he will live on.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN  
STALLWORTH OF HUNTSVILLE,  
ALABAMA**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 5, 2002*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate my constituent, Mr. John Stallworth of Huntsville, Alabama. John Stallworth played college football for Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, where he was an All-Southern Intercollegiate Conference receiver in 1972 and 1973. He went on to have a legendary career in the National Football League with the Pittsburgh Steelers, helping them become one of professional football's greatest dynasties. Now a highly successful business owner and an integral part of the Huntsville community, the City of Huntsville is

celebrating John's impressive career and his induction into the prestigious Pro Football Hall of Fame.

John Stallworth was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on August 3, 2002 in Canton, Ohio. His son, John Stallworth, Jr. eloquently presented him for induction into the NFL's elite ranks. His wife Flo and daughter Natasha joined him for the ceremonies, as did many other family members and friends from Alabama. John played wide receiver for the Steelers for fourteen years during which he earned four Super Bowl championship rings and set multiple Steelers receiving records. His Steeler teammates twice recognized him as team MVP. He played in four Pro Bowls, was named All-Pro in 1979, All-AFC in 1979 and 1984, and NFL "Comeback Player of the Year" in 1984. He finished his pro football career with 537 receptions for 8,723 yards and 63 touchdowns.

John Stallworth retired from professional football after the 1987 season in order to focus on his business in Huntsville. In 1986, along with his wife and business partner Sam Hazelrig, he began Madison Research Corporation, which now operates in multiple states and employs over 650 people. Madison Research, an engineering and information technology company, has become a very important business for the economy of North Alabama. His company makes substantial contributions to our nation through its valuable work on key government projects, primarily for the Defense Department and NASA, each of which has a significant presence in North Alabama.

As President and CEO of Madison Research, John still finds the time to give much back to his community. One of his latest efforts is a partnership between Madison Research and Lockheed Martin to provide internships for students from historically black colleges and universities in order to give them the same opportunities that helped him succeed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the people of North Alabama, I rise to commend and thank John Stallworth for his distinguished career and his dedication to our community. The City of Huntsville is honored to have such a fine individual as a strong business and community leader.

ON THE SWEARING-IN OF J. RUSSELL  
GEORGE AS INSPECTOR  
GENERAL FOR THE CORPORATION  
FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 5, 2002*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, all of us who serve in Congress depend heavily on skilled, capable and hard-working staff members to meet the heavy demands of committee hearings, floor action and all of the other activities of a national legislature. These staff members serve in many roles, ranging from our personal staffs who handle a wide variety of issues to specialists at the Congressional Research Service, the General Accounting Office, the leadership staffs and our committees.